

EP 690

225 304

Please submit for hearings:

One thing (among many) that Rail to Trail did for us in the Black Hills /South Dakota is force us to maintain the ROW fences which were previously maintained by the RR. Bigheartedly, they provide the material if you want to wait long enough. We now have 12 more miles of fence to maintain with no additional compensation.

Another problem has been trespass. We have gone out the lane and found people setting up camp in our hay yard, a trailer load of horses were being unloaded, using our lane to get to the highway and we even found a man laying in our lane a 1/2 mile from the Trail, with heart problems and dehydrated at 10pm at night. Trail users were going past Private Road and No Trespass signs daily to access the trail. Finally we were forced to install a Security Gate to try to control the trespassers. Trail users won't keep dogs leashed and continually allow pets to run through our cows with new calves in pastures next to the Trail. These acts violate South Dakota laws but the States Attorney has refused to prosecute these cases, in one especially egregious damage to property incident the States Attorney stated that the violators were too old to prosecute!

Thank you,

Bruce Murdock
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